Practical Talks and Plain Precepts for Farmers.

Edited for the Farmer readers of the MONITOR by an Annapolis Valley Agriculturist

CULTIVATION AND SOIL MOISTURE.

The fact is becoming more and more apparent every year that the cutting away of our forests is resulting in a marked decrease of summer rainfall and we are approaching the dry period of Ontario and other tree-denuded countries in an alarming manner. It is becoming a problem now to keep our crops from suffering from lack of moisture during July and August and it is our intention to give one or more issues to the practical solution of this problem. We give in this issue a very practical letter from Mr. Black in the Maritime Homestead.

TILLAGE AND THE GROWTH OF CROPS.

The question of tillage and the growth of crop! is a very broad and comprehensive one, involving as it does the whole modus operandi of farming. The whole of the initial issue of the Maritime Homestead could easily be taken up with the discussion of this important subject, but as your prospectus indicates that space will be wanted for other matters, I will confine myself to generalities, with a few notes of my own practice in dealing with field crops.

The work-a-day farmer of the present time who takes a farm paper, (and the proportion of those who do it is much too small) is not looking for erudite and abstruse essays on the theory of this or that farm practice, but eagerly reads anything that has a direct bearing on his everyday work. While the writer is not one of those "corn-beef and cabbage" farmers who descries theory and can see no scientific aspect to farming he still believes in looking at the practical side of affairs and is disposed to view things from the standpoint of business and common sense. But while attitude is most commendable in dealing with farm work, yet it gives an added zest to farming to know why we do certain things, since from a knowledge of the underlying principles, the farmer is able to work more intelligently, and therefore more profitably.

All this preamble is to the effect that the preparation of the land for any crop is not merely a mechanical process that the soil may be made ready for the seed, and that all subsequent cultivation is merely for the sake of killing weeds, but that there are other and more important reasons for these operations. When we realize the fact that tillage is manure, that the careful and thorough tillinge of the soil makes fertility available for the crop, we are enabled to carry on this work more intelligently.

On a heavy soil, such as that with which the writer has to deal, it is essential that the proper cultivation of the land should begin in the autumn. Knowing that fact, both from observation and experience, your correspondent confesses that he has not always lived up to his knowledge, and as a result of procrastination and neglect in this regard last fall, part of his crop is suffering from the recent drought to a much greater extent than would otherwise have been the case. Last autumn, instead of having the horses idly standing in the stable while the men were gathering apples, more help should have been hired and all land intended for this season's cropping should have been plowed; at least, I can see now when it is too late,how an expenditure of say twenty dollars for plowman's wages, would have meant an increase of at least ten times that amount in added crops this year. Experentia docet, and if it ever rains again, there will be some fall plowing done on this farm, you can rest assured.

Plowing in the autumn has two decided advantages one of which is that the action of the frost sweetens and ameliorates the solid, and the other is that (and this will appeal to the "corn-beef and cabbage farmers afore said) it forwards and hastens the work in the spring, thus giving a longer season of growth, and also enabling the farmer to push his work instead of the reverse being the case. It is absolutely essential that all grain crops particularly be sown early. Repeated experiments conducted at the various experiment stations as well as actual practice by farmers themselves have shown most conclusively that it is the early seeded grain which gives the greatest weight, both of grain and straw per acre. September and October are the months in which we should prepare the land for the crops of the following season. As has been indicated, it is the usual practice here to plow all land intended for grain in the fall, setting the furrow well up; but this season I intend to adopt the plan which, I noticed while in Ontario last winter, is being quite generally followed there. After plowing, the land is thoroughly harrowed. It is then drilled up as for turnips. The drills carry off the surface water rapidly in the spring, so that the land is fit to work much earlier, and all that is necessary to do is to harrow down the drills and sow the grain.

For best results with roots and forage crops, partial preparation at least of the land intended for roots should be plowed early in the fall, and then thoroughly harrowed. This will tend to germinate any weed seeds which may be in the soil, and they can be destroyed by frequent harrowings freezes up for the winter. If the manure is on hand, it had better be applied in the fall. It should be the aim of every farmer to do as much cultivation in the autumn as possible. It means more available fertility, less weeds, a longer season of growth for the crops, and bigger yields.

For sowing grain I use a one-horse broadcast seeder, with an attachment for sowing grass and clover seed. I am aware of the fact that drilled grain usually does best, but drills are expensive, and are not to be afforded by small ten to fifteen acre farmers like the writer. The seeder I use is very moderate in cost, does the work more evenly than carrying a heavy basket up and down the field, as I have done many a time. It may be laziness, but I plead guilty to a fondness for any implement with a seat on it. I always sow from ten to twelve pounds of Mammoth Late Red Clover with all my grain, whether the land is intended for hay or not. I believe and my belief is justified by experience, that the cost of the clover seed (usually about $1.20 per acre) is amply repaid by the added humus and increased fertility. I have heard otherwise intelligent farmers speak of clover as a weed. But such farmers either by death or education, are happily becoming fewer. The clover plant is one of God's gifts to the farmer and he who is not availing himself of its use, is neglecting one of the most powerful agencies we have for increasing soil fertility. I use the mammoth Red because from its greater root system it appears to do the best as a fertilizer. It is a coarser and of a ranker growth than the medium on common red clover, and does not make as good hay, but I prefer it for the reasons just mentioned. On no account should stock be allowed on the first season's growth. If it gets too high, run the mower over it, with the cutting bar set high. A clover sod is the ideal preparation for corn or potatoes. It fills the soil with the necessary humus and is very retentive of the soil moisture so essential to both these crops. T. B. Terry, the famous potato grower of Ohio, has said that with his soil filled with decaying clover, he can raise a maximum crop of potatoes without a drop of rain from planting to digging. But then, Mr. Terry's land is well drained, and (unlike the writer) he always does things on time.

If I were asked what is the greatest essential in tillage, I should unhesitatingly answer, harrowing. How in the world we ever got our crops in with the old spike harrow I can hardly conceive. But we did. So we used to put our turnip seed in with a quill stuck through the cork in a bottle. For years I wanted a disc harrow, but felt I couldn't afford it, and got along with the spike and spring tooth. Three years ago I bought a disc, and have wondered ever since how I ever managed to get along without it. It will pay any farmer to sell one of his unprofitable cows, and most farmers whose herd exceeds one cow, would discover such a one if he were to test them, and purchase a disc harrow. It will accomplish more tillage in one hour on most soils, than a spring tooth will in three. For soddy land it is the machine par excellence, as it cuts and pulverizes the soil without dragging the sod to the surface as does the spring tooth. On clean potato stubble an excellent seed bed for grain can be made with this tool without the need of plowing.

Another excellent implement which I have found very useful in smoothing lumpy land is a plank drag. This is made of hard wood, preferably oak, since it needs to be heavy, and is constructed by lapping the planks, clapboard fashion.

With a pair of horses attached, and the driver standing on the drag, it makes a splendid clod crusher, much better than a roller, as it grinds and crushes the lumps, instead of merely pressing them into the soil as does the roller. The latter is all right for smoothing the land after the grain is sown, and for covering in clover seed.

I have written thus far of the preparation of the soil for the various crops, and while it is important that the land be thoroughly fitted and fined to form a perfect seed bed, our system does not stop here. After cultivation is equally essential. This applies more particularly to all so-called hoed crops, though I am of the opinion that some system of after-cultivation would be beneficial to grain crops as well, especially when the surface has become crusted and evaporation is going on rapidly. I believe it would pay to go over the grain with a light scratch-harrow, or one of the many forms of weeders now being brought into use. This, however, is only speculation on my part. I have heard and read of its being done, but know nothing about it from actual practice. For all hoed crops, however, the after cultivation must be thorough. This does not imply simply sufficient working to keep down the weeds. It means a perfect pulverization of the top soil so that the surface shall be kept as constantly as possible, covered with a fine mulch or blanket of loose earth. This serves to check the evaporation of water which is continually going on in dry weather, and conserves the soil moisture without which no crop can do its best. It must be remembered that all plant food to be available must be in solution. Plants drink their food. Hence the conservation of the moisture in the soil must be aided by constant cultivation, it is especially important after a rain, in order that the crushed surface may be broken up, the soil aerated, and evaporation prevented to a very great extent thus enabling the crop to get the full benefit of sunshine and shower.

The first cultivation of all hoed crops should be deep, but subsequent working should be gradually made more shallow. This is particularly true of the corn crop, the feeding roots of which lie near the surface and as a consequence if deep pruning is done, and the crop suffers as a result, The ordinary diamond toothed cultivator is not well adapted to the later working of corn. The implement used for this purpose should be fitted with numerous narrow edged teeth, with a rake attachment in the rear, so that the surface of the soil between the rows shall be kept level and smooth, instead of being thrown up into rough ridges, as is the case when the ordinary cultivator is used. While I believe in cultivating the corn crop at frequent intervals until the plants are in tassel, (after which I think working should cease) experience has taught me that time is well spent in thoroughly fitting the land before planting, and in harrowing the ground both before and after the plants are up. This is also true to a limited extent with potatoes.

With regard to the cultivation of other hoed crops, space will not permit me to write at greater length; suffice it to say that the oftener the crop is cultivated, the better as a general rule, will be the results. While tillage, as has been said, is manure, yet it cannot wholly take the place of that article. But by constant and thorough cultivation much can be done with an apparently poor soil. While few farmers have either the means or the disposition to apply an overdose of fertilizer, either natural or artificial, it would not be wise to recommend economy in that direction yet it is safe to say that with half a given quantity of fertilizer and plenty (and plenty in this case means plenty) of cultivation, better crops can be secured than if double the amount of manure were used, and only indifferent cultivation given the land.

PRIVATE ENTERPRISE IN PUBLIC ROAD MAKING.

One of the best kept roads is in Caldwell county, Mo. It is not because of superior road laws. There are roads in the state that would wreck a leather bag in a spring wagon. Neither is it because the township trustees compel the road overseer to attend to his business.

This is the explanation. On each side of the road are fine farms. Beautiful farms with clean-cut hedges, well-kept orchards and fine meadows. On these farms are well-built, well-painted and nicely ornamented farm-houses with beautiful lawns and trees about them. In these houses live progressive men who have agreed that this road shall be well kept. Each man owns a scraper. Each farmer takes the piece of road along his farm, just as the city resident does the sidewalk in front of his house. When a bridge is to be built they all come together and build. The road is graded off in the middle, so the water runs off at once. When it begins to get rough they run a scraper over it. During parts of the year they go over the road from three to six times a week. Sometimes even oftener.

It takes some time? Yes, but not half as much as it does some other men trying to sell their farms when they want to change. An average of three hours per week for each farm keeps the road. When they want to go to town, as they often do, the drive is a pleasure. It's a pleasure for other people, too. And when one of them wants to sell his farm he gets from five to ten dollars more per acre than if he were located at the side or end of a narrow-gullied buggy-breaking path.

A pipeful of "Amber" Plug Smoking Tobacco will burn 75 minutes.

"Test it?"

Save the tags, they are valuable.

Minard's Liniment for rheumatism.

AN OLD LADY'S STORY.

To the Editor of the Monitor:—

Sir,—I was troubled with rheumatism for about eight years, and tried a great many different kinds of medicines without getting relief. Last spring I began to get worse and I could hardly walk. It was then that I tried Dr. Clarke's Wonderful Little Red Pills, and two boxes cured me. I have had no rheumatism since taking them. I am eighty-two years of age, and can walk now quite smartly thanks to this remedy wonder.—(Mrs.) Paul McDonald, Eden Lake, Pictou Co., N. S.

We have yet to know of a single case where these wonderful pills have not been almost entirely successful in affecting a cure, Canada Chemical Co. Peterborough, Ont.

They cured me of rheumatism after I had been given up.—Andrew Closkey, Victoria, B. C.

Ex-Ald. Bailey, St. Johns, writes: I cannot speak too highly of Dr. Clarke's Wonderful Little Red Pills. They worked a miricle in my case and cured me after many years of suffering. I do not think their equal is to be obtained.

Nothing like Dr. Clarke's Little Red Pills for the cure of heart trouble, weakness, and blood diseases. Have used them everywhere with success.—Dr. E. F. Mann, late of H. M. Forces South Africa.

Dr. Clarke's Little Red Pills permanently cured me of headache. I suffered for years and only took two boxes. That is a year since. I have not had a symptom since.—James R. Jackson, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.

I do not believe there is a medicine to compare with Dr. Clarke's Little Red Pills. They cured me of indigestion and catarrh of the stomach, after nine years' suffering.—H. S. McDonald, G. T. R. shops, Montreal.

Dr. Clarke's Little Red Pills are a certain cure for rheumatism, asthma, paralysis, catarrh, eczema, coughs, backache, indigestion, stomach and liver troubles, female complaints, even when the diseases have been standing for many years. Price 50 cents per box. For sale by local druggists. The Canada Chemical Co., Peterborough, will forfeit $10 for any case that will not be helped by these pills.

Dr. Clarke's Sure Cure for Catarrh, and Dr. Clarke's Sure Cure for Eczema, same price. $10 will be paid for any case they will not cure. Sold by S. N. Weare.

NOT A SCHOOL PROBLEM.

I doubt if you would find in one of our high schools in a country town in Canada six of the boys who could give you an exact idea of the number of miles and the pace at which a young horse should be driven, says Laly Bernard in the Globe. The knack of harnessing and of adjusting weight so as to distribute strain, indeed, half the suffering of the horses in the country comes from the absolute indifference of the men as to whether the harness fits or not. Our country roads are improving, but, as a rule farmers are absolutely careless about the condition of the roads over which they drive their badly shod horses. Surely the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals have an immense field before them in this country of great distances, unbroken country and bad roads. Not only this, but in many cases, really valuable animals are lost be the indifference or ignorance of their owners as to the necessity of good winter quarters. All the questions affecting the welfare of domestic animals, who form such an important feature in the economics of the country, should be widely discussed and given their due place in the education of our people. We are very dependent upon the help accorded us in our struggle for existence by these domestic animals, and it is safe to say that the immense development in the poultry business during the last ten years has done more to teach men to care for the wants of the feathered branch of our domestic charges than all the work of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals during the past twenty years. But there still remains so much to be done, and such constant vigilance to be exerted—the constant attendance of delegates from the society at all meetings and conventions of live stock societies, and keeping closely in touch with all improvement of the veterinary profession, and even a knowledge of the history and growth of the farrier business. For while the human species suffers acutely from the ignorance of the men who model and make our foot gear, imagine to what degree the poor horses are dependent upon the skill of the man who models and fits their shoes! One knows that the human species find standing much more fatiguing than walking, and I often wonder if the horses at a cab stand they stand in the scorching sun or pelting rain than from racing over the hard pavements.

—Make up your mind that the Creator made you to enjoy life and to have all the good things in this world necessary to your well-being and moral and spiritual growth.

Think large things for yourself; for the all powerful ruler did not set for you the very narrow limit which you have in mind. Limitation in thought will certainly produce limitation in possession. If you are convinced that you will never have much, that you are poor and will remain so, the chances are ten to one that you will, says Success.

How can you expect to expand your life, to enlarge your sphere, while you think and talk limitation? Enlarge your horizon; be generous to yourself in thought and ambition. The Creator never made people to limp along the starvation line; there are enough resources in the world to make everybody well, happy and contented. The great trouble with us is that we circumscribe ourselves by thinking within narrow limits. "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he."

—A cake of magnesia is a good friend to the economical woman in these days of many light frocks; and the mother finds it quite as indispensable for cleaning the baby's white cloaks and caps as does the summer girl for her numerous costumes and accessories. An expensive laundry bill may often be avoided by this small cake of magnesia when a dress or a cloak or some dainty neck fixing is fresh and white except for a spot or stain that renders it unsightly. Rub the soiled spots on both sides of the goods, and after airing hang away with the magnesia still there. When the dress is wanted again dust the magnesia off lightly, and it will be found to have carried away part of the soil and to hide the rest, keeping it immaculate for several wearings.

Lightning Remedy for Cramps.

Some people have cramps pretty often, others only now and then. But when you do have them it's a mighty quick relief you want. Polson's Nerviline is as sure as death to relieve the cramps in five seconds—it's instantaneous, just a few drops in sweetened water and the pain is gone. Buy a bottle of Nerviline today and keep it handy. Nerviline is a common household necessity and only costs 25c.

Dr. Hamilton's Mandrake Pills cure constipation.

—We are part and parcel of the Divine plan. It concerns us deeply. We are workers together with God in realizing his all-wise plan, in fulfilling his purposes. It would be a wild world if it were allowed to drift out of God's hand, to be tossed about on the waves and billows of chance or chaos, or some devouring power of evil.

CAST DOWN YOUR BUCKET WHERE YOU ARE.

'Farmer's Son' writes, asking advice He has come to the turn of the road, and does not know what is best to do. His home is a good farm clear of debt, and he has a brother and sisters younger than himself. He feels that farming is not recognized as it should be among other occupations in life and wonders if he had better break away and take a course in a business college. But in many ways he likes farm life, only it has so many social disadvantages.

In answer to this, it is a serious thing to give advice in regard to the life work of any human being. Duty usually shows the true path. It is the opinion of those who have studied the subject that no business or trade has greater possibilities than that of a thrifty, intelligent landholder. That is, if you take into consideration the station in life into which you were born.

The mistake with many young people is that they refuse to recognize the position in life into which it has pleased God to call them, but want to be counted in with those who are born to what is considered higher social privileges. There is no calling superior to that of an educated up-to-date farmer, but the world is not educated up to recognizing it yet.

He it is who has power to build up the waste places, to make the wilderness blossom. To feed the earth's vast multitude. Put aside false pride which is, I am sorry to say, fostered by the youth of our day who have what they think are superior social advantages. You have your own 'free bookless lore' that few understand so well as a farmer's son. Study natures works, and the best practical books on farm improvement. Be a social element for good among your young companions and meet for discussion of the topics of the day. McGill University has established a travelling library for the use of such as you and the community where you live, and you can gain all information from the librarian there. On the farm there must be no slipshod work. Strict accounts of income and outlay, and improved methods of cultivation, will suit ins uccess and a happy, useful life.

A Secret Worth Knowing.

A woman is usually old before she learns the secret of a happy existence; of taking things as she finds them, cheerfully and without regret. A physical burden she is quick enough to refuse to bear, or to adjust in the manner in which it will cause the least inconvenience, yet the woman who wears a corset bone, a reel of cotton and a stick of tape from a dry goods shop will worry herself sick over the burden which society with her own help has laid upon her, and which she never shifts until she gives way beneath its weight.

We women are always building imaginary bridges which we cross and recross in great, though altogether unnecessary tribulation. We borrow trouble for no other reason than that "it is our nature to." We forget to bask in today's sunshine because of nervous anticipation that tomorrow may be cloudy. We neglect our present happiness in regretting that it will not last forever. There are even some of us so constituted that we miss the glory of a June afternoon in shivering over the thought of a far-off December. We take too much thought of the morrow to enjoy the pleasures of today. We are optimists; we wish to regenerate a world which can manage its affairs nicely without our help We are too serious, too intent on arranging the universe, or the particular corner of it in which we are interested, to make the best of what is. We are too near-sighted to see that it is useless to tamper with the world and its old-fashioned ways; to attempt to suddenly remake it and its customs according to our ideas of things as they should be. To take life as it comes and to make the best of it is the way along which happiness lies. To quarrel with unchangeable laws is madness instead of heroic! To greet misfortune with a smile disarms it. Run from care and it follows you; pursue it and it overwhelms you; be ready to face it bravely and it will pass your by or stay but a moment. Take things cheerfully along the battle of life is half won. Make the best of them and the best is yours. Happiness is as much the result of habit as of circumstances. And habits once acquired become second nature.

—Say what you like, it is the bright, cheery people, who do the work in the world—whose influence on lives is the most lasting. You remember what Thackery says about making a face in your looking glass? The world takes us pretty much in the same spirit that we take it.

Laugh and the world laughs with you,
Weep, and you weep alone.

The idea of anyone going about bitter and soured in a beautiful world like ours! No matter what the blow may have been, no matter how heavy the storm, calmness and serenity come again; after tears the sunshine. Has it been ingratitude? bitterest and the hardest of all? Did you, too, set up your idol to find it but clay? You are not the first, if that is any consolation. But, because your experience has been so real, the knife thrusting even to the quick, are you, at the outset of life, going to lose faith in all humanity? I think it is Emerson who says; "I judge of a man's heart by his hope." And, again, just listen, for a minute or two, to the extreme trust he impresses one with in these few lines.

"A little consideration of what takes place around us every day, would show us that a higher law than that of our will regulates events that our painful labors are quite unnecessary; that only in our easy, simple spontaneous action are we strong and by contenting ourselves with obedience we become divine. Belief and love—a believing love will relieve us of a vast load of care."

Just look back on the years that are gone. Can we recall instances—mile-stones they are now that mark the spots—when in a moment obstacles were removed; changes come and barriers which had seemed insurmountable and monumental were, almost in an eye wink, swept away. How small some of these memories make us feel now as we recognize the mighty Hand of the Infinite!

How to Beautify the Complexion.

To have a soft, smooth skin, free from eruptions and pimples, the blood invigorates enfeebled blood, and also must be healthy and pure. Ferrozone cleanses it of all impurities and poisons. It brings color to the lips and cheeks, brilliancy to the eyes whitens the teeth and sweetens the breath. No tonic compares with Ferrozone in rapid action and permanent results. Try it. Price 50c., at druggists or Polson & Co., Kingston, Ont.

Dr. Hamilton's pills cure headache.

—A very substantial and appetizing supper or luncheon dish is codfish pudding. It is made exactly like fish balls, adding one or two beaten eggs and half a cupful of cream, and beating very light; pile in an earthen dish spread with melted butter, cover with bread crumbs and bake to a bright golden brown in a hot oven. Cold slaw, chopped pickle or chill sauce are agreeable adjuncts. An appetizing salt relish is made by freshening a cupful of picked-up codfish, adding a tablespoonful of butter when drained, and, when this is absorbed, half a cupful of thin cream. Pour over hot buttered toast. This may be varied by using milk thickened with flour or cornstarch.

Minard's Liniment is the best.

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St. John via Digby
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On and after MONDAY, JUNE 2ND, 1902, the Steamship and Train Service of this Railway will be as follows (Sunday excepted):—

Trains will Arrive at Bridgetown:

Express from Halifax	11.04 a.m
Express from Yarmouth	12.58 p.m
Accom. from Richmond	4.15 p.m
Accom. from Annapolis	6.20 a.m

S. S. "PRINCE GEORGE,"
by far the finest and fastest steamer plying out of Boston, leaves Yarmouth, N. S., Wednesday and Saturday immediately on arrival of the Express trains, arriving in Boston early next morning. Returning leaves Long Wharf, Boston, Tuesdays and Fridays at two p. m. Unequalled cuisine on Dominion Atlantic Railway Steamers, and Palace Car Express Trains.

Royal Mail S. S. 'Prince Edward,'
1,420 Gross Tonnage; 3,200 Horse Power.
ST. JOHN and DIGBY,
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Leaves St. John	7.00 a.m
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Arrives in St. John	3.45 p.m

The S. S. "Percy Cann," will make daily trips between Kingsport and Parrsboro till the completion of the new Steamer.
Trains and Steamers are run on Eastern Standard Time.

P. GIFKINS,
Gen'l Manager,
Kentville, N. S.

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EANFARE
imported 1890 by J. W. Akin & Son, of Scipio, N. Y., is entered for registry in the French Coach Horse Stud Book of America, and his recorded number is 721.
PEDIGREE: Bred by M. Paisant, of Periers en Auffe, department of Calvados, got by the government stallion Epaphus, dam N. by Le More.
DESCRIPTION: Jet black; weight 1280. Perfect disposition. Fine reader.
☞ Will stand for the present at my stables at Bridgetown.
TERMS: Season $10.00; warrant $15.60.
J. R. DeWITT.
Bridgetown, April 30th, 1902.—3m

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50 Under-Graduates
—OF THE—
MARITIME BUSINESS COLLEGE
HALIFAX, N. S.
Who were less than two years from college.

Average monthly salary	$37.43
Tuition cost (average 4 months)	34.00
Wages per month	$20.00 to $60.00

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ARTHUR PALFREY.
Bridgetown, Oct. 22nd, 1890. 26tf

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is always the cheapest!
That is what you get when you buy your
MEAT AND PROVISIONS
—FROM—
B. M. WILLIAMS
He always has
THE BEST.

OYSTER and LUNCH COUNTER
OYSTER STEWS AND LUNCHES SERVED AT ALL HOURS.
Oysters sold by the peck or half peck, or on half shell.
BREAD, CAKES and BISCUIT fresh from first-class bakery always on hand.
T. J. EAGLESON,
QUEEN ST., BRIDGETOWN
36 tf

NOTICE
All persons having legal demand against the estate of Samuel M. Witham, late of Clarence, deceased, are hereby required to render the same, duly attested within six months from date, and all persons indebted to the estate are hereby requested to make immediate payment to
IDA MAY WITHAM,
Administratrix.
Clarence, March 28th, 1902.

In the Spring Key.

Far in the east the amber morning
breaketh,
The gates of dawn their portals outward swing;
From darksome dreams the quick'ning earth awaketh,
Sing, then my heart, a song of hope and spring.
Far up the east the shadows swiftly darkle,
Prophetic night spreads wide its ebon wing;
In shining sunrise will the glad earth sparkle,
Sing then my heart, a song of hope and spring.

—Louise Phillips.

Getting into Moral Debt.

Philip D. Armour, millionaire and philanthronist, continually warned young men about getting into debt. He loved free men and despised slaves When asked if he admired a certain brilliant orator he said: "He may have a superb voice and fine presence, but can't you hear the rattle of his chain? That man is not free. He is under moral obligations that demoralize him. He is not speaking the deepest thing in his soul, and I have not time to hear any slave talk. I want a man to be just as free I am.

On another occasion he said: "Don't get into debt—I mean moral debt. It is bad enough to get into debt financially. There goes a young man who is mortgaged. That young man is lugging it along with a debt, and it will take twice as much power to get him along as the man without a debt. There are other debts and obligations that are embarrassing in their entanglements. Don't get into debt morally, my boy; don't get into debt so that you may not exercise your freedom to its limits."

—There is an outcry in New York because of the slangy and ungrammatical conversation of the pupils of the schools, some being inclined to blame the teachers. We hear a good deal of the same sort in this province. Doubtless in some cases the teachers may be to blame. Harper's Weekly comes to the defence of the teachers in this way: "The most thorough grounding in the principles of grammar is not proof against the usage which prevails in the after-school environment of the child. Correct phrasing, the proper use of words, the simple construction of a sentence—all these things may be taught and hammered persistently into the head of a pupil who will immediately lapse into the habit of speech of his father or his mother, of his companions on the street, or of the servants of the household." That is quite true; and it furnishes an argument for the kindergarten as a means of keeping the child for at least a part of the day in a good environment. But still nothing can supplant the effects of a good home in respect to curbing the use of slang, and preventing the falling into slip-shod methods of conversation; and nothing, on the other hand, can so hasten its being adopted by the children as its use by the parents, older companions or guardians.

—God's message to mankind is worthy of Him who is Love. It is the message of a Father to His children, revealing to them His heart, His inmost thought.

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The Household.

YOUNG WOMEN HAIR DRESSERS.

A microbe for everything and for every microbe a specialist is the order of the day. The specialization which has resulted would appal the old-time general practicioner who gave you a pill for your stomach's sake, apply forceps to your teeth or scissors to hair, according to the weakness which beset your members.

A woman's crowning glory is the last thing to have its properly assigned microbe with the result that a new profession has sprung up for refined and intelligent young women. The hair doctor has become quite as indespensable as the dentist, and she requires as thorough and scientific training. She can tell by looking at one's hair what particilar element necessary to its wellbeing is lacking and from the neat little medicine chest which she carries about with her she can supply just the right thing. She makes a diagnosis of each case, and prepares salves and lotions according to the individual necessity. At regular intervals, from twice a week to once a month as the pocket books of her patrons allow, she visits the house to give the prescribed scalp treatment.

Some of her patients take treatment merely to preserve the hair, while others are being successfully treated for baldness or a serious thinning of their locks, but the woman is poor indeed who never employs her services.

Falling hair, by the way, like cavities in the teeth, and most other disagreeable things, is the work of the numerous and ubiquitous microbe, and the hair expert will tell you that a thorough brushing every night is a means of deliverance from the germ which lives by chewing up the roots of your hair, if the brush be absolutely clean. If not, the brush is a source of contagion rather than a benefit. Every time a hair brush is used it should be immediately cleaned just as a wash cloth or a tooth-brush is cleaned. Put a pint of water with a spoonful of ammonia into a shallow basin. Take the brush by the handle, dip it in the ammonia and water, and shake it out briskly, repeat once or twice, giving it a final dip in clean water then shake it out briskly, repeat once or twice, giving it a final dip in clean water, shake well and hang up to dry. About three minutes is required for the entire process, and the result is a scrupulously clean brush.

By means of the hair doctor, who has come to stay, judging by the number of smart young women who make a comfortable and independent living in this way, gray hair may be delayed for years. Sulphur is considered very effective for the purpose and a preparation of sulphur and lanoline has been known to put off the evil day considerably.

Green soap is an indispensible preparation to the woman who would preserve the lustre and richness of her hair. It is prepared and prescribed by all persons who make a specialty of scalp treatment. The following recipe was obtained from the wife of a prominent physician who prepared the liquid soap for her husband: Take one cup soap, water, alcohol and glycerine. Heat the water and shave the soap into it. Then stir it over the fire until it is perfectly smooth. Add the glycerine and stir again very thoroughly. The alcohol is added last of all, mixed with two ounces of essential oil of any preferred scent. A small quantity of oil of orris gives a suggestion of violet, while oil of verbena or oil of sweet geranium gives an old-fashioned, wholesome scent. Of course, the alcohol is volatile and inflammable and should not be carelessly distributed over a hot fire; otherwise, green soap making is extremely simple.

DAUGHTERS.

I am supposing, dear rosebud of the little wilful thorns, that you are willing to bloom on the home bonbon borders, that you are not anxious for a wider career than home offers you. These are days of restlessness and aspiration beyond the bounds of home, and young women are invited on many sides to step into a sphere that seems wider than the somewhat circumscribed circle of home interests. A girl conscious of her own ability, with leanings toward professional or business life, with the knowledge that she can successfully compete with others, may often say to herself: "Have I the right to fold my talent in a napkin? Shall I not thus be guilty of unfaithfulness and waste?" Or she wonders why there should be limitations hedging her about, when, in the case of her brother, not better equipped, not more aggressive than herself, it is expected and required that he shall engage in the competitions of his time, do battle with the public wrong, strive for the public right, and, in the open field, enter the lists with his peers. An ambitious and wide-awake young girl often chafes against the hampering conditions of her lot and wishes that she might without question do with her life as she pleases. And in this she is not to be blamed, nor for this should she be hastily condemned. The point of view must be regarded and the twentieth century atmosphere weighed in the balance.

We have gone a long way forward in the last thirty years, and, upon the whole, as far as we women are concerned, the progress has been along lines of elevation and dignity. When, at twenty, a girl's friend began to speak to her as "passee," if at that hour no lover loomed up on the horizon, when she was kept in tutelage if unmarried, long after she was a mature in years, experience and appearance, when "old maid" was a term of opprobrium and old maidhood a situation of reproach, it was not strange that girls envied their mothers and wished to change places with them. The pendulum has of late been swinging the other way; young women may easily support themselves by their honorable endeavor and their fathers and mothers no longer need seek for them a provision in marriage. If they marry, it is because their hearts go with the surrender of their hands, because love hallows the bond, not because they wish or need to be taken care of by a husband. The woman may care for herself. She will not be a burden on her toil-worn father nor a clog upon her brothers, since if the necessity exists she may herself become a wage earner.

This being conceded, may we not urge upon our thoughtful daughter that she may continue at home, filling every little space and crevice with sunshine and sweetness, when her family does not ask or suggest her going beyond it, when the means are sufficient and she is more welcome there than the day-dawn after midnight, and than the day-dawn after midnight, and find at home an arena of effort worth her utmost powers?—Margaret E. Sangster in "Winsome Womanhood."

CULTIVATE TIDINESS.

There is an exquisite charm about a neatly dressed woman. She does not wear her hair loose as if it is about to fall on her shoulders, writes 'Modes Her gloves are not ripped at the seams, nor are any buttons missing from her boots. Her veil does not reveal a hole over her chin, nor does the binding of her skirt show ragged in places. Not many women show their tidiness in these details, but the well-groomed woman considers that neglect in these little things is full of shame to womankind.